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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

22nd March 1960] [Mr. Chairman]

4. Sri M. Seshachariar.
5. Srimathi Saraswathy Pandurangam.
6. Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar.
7. Dr. A. Chidambaranathan.
8. Sri L. S. Karayalar.
9 Sri M. Ethirajalu.

As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., nine, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the Committee of Privileges.

The Deputy Chairman is ex-officio a Member.

Under rule 154 (4) of the Madras Council Rules, I have nominated Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar to be the Chairman of the Committee.

III.—CALLING ATTENTION TO TERMINATION OF SERVICES OF TEACHERS IN LABOUR WELFARE HIGH SCHOOL, MADURAI.

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, I rise to call the attention of the Hon. the Minister for Finance to a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the termination of the services of eight teachers from the Labour Welfare High School, Madurai. The teachers have not been allowed to continue till their appeal is disposed of. They have not been paid up to the date of termination of their services. The House is eager to know the steps taken by the Government in the matter.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Teachers employed in schools under private management should enter into an agreement with the managements in a form prescribed by Government and this agreement will govern the terms and conditions of their service. One of these conditions of agreement is that the services of the teacher can be terminated by the management under certain conditions. Another condition of the agreement is that if either party fails to observe the terms of the agreement, the aggrieved party shall have a right to represent to the Director of Public Instruction (in the case of certain categories of teachers) and the Divisional Inspector (in the case of others) who shall pass suitable orders in the matter. An appeal lies to Government from an order of the Director of Public Instruction and to the Director of Public Instruction from an order of the Divisional Inspector.

In March 1959, an amendment was issued to the draft form of agreement providing that, pending the decision of the appellate authority in cases where an appeal is filed, the management shall not relieve the teacher and the teacher shall not stop away from the school. This amendment has to be incorporated in the actual agreements entered into by every management with its teachers.

A High School is being maintained by the Madurai Labour Welfare Association in Madurai Town. The management terminated the services of certain teachers including the Headmaster

after framing charges against them. The teachers and Headmaster have appealed to the Director of Public Instruction against the orders of the management. The appeals are under examination by the Director. It has not so far been represented to Government that the teachers were not paid up to the date of termination of their services. This will be looked into.

It appears that the proviso introduced in March 1959 and referred to above has not been incorporated in the agreement entered into by the teachers of this school with the management. Since it is the actual agreement in force that governs the conditions of service, the management has not allowed the teachers to continue in service pending disposal of their appeals. The proviso could not, in these circumstances, be applied to the cases of these teachers. The Director of Public Instruction has been asked to pass orders on the appeals as quickly as possible.

IV.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1960–61—*cont.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall now resume the general discussion on the Budget for 1960–61.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Mr. Chairman, it is really a matter for happiness that the Finance Minister, who has been in charge of the finances of this State for the last eight years, has done very well in keeping the financial position of the State at a very sound level. What is more, he has built up a reputation for himself that, whatever the resources of the State—unfortunately, the resources of our State are meagre—he could carry on the various welfare activities with those resources. Particularly, he has kept his word that he gave a year or two ago that there would be no further taxes. Of course, it may be argued that taxation has reached the saturation point and that there could be no further taxation. Still, the fact remains that we need not bother about further taxation for a year or two. Another healthy thing is, so far as the Second Five-Year Plan is concerned, we have done very well. We have exceeded the target of Rs. 151 crores by Rs. 30 crores and more. We have spent about Rs. 181 crores. We have exceeded the targets or at least reached them in regard to various developmental activities like rural electrification and so on except in the matter of food production where, according to the statement of the Minister for Finance, there is a shortfall of about Rs. 3.5 lakh tons. Originally, it was stipulated that there should be a
3-40 p.m. production of 12 lakh tons of foodgrains. There is a shortfall of 3.5 lakh tons. Of course, it is argued that it is due to shortage of fertilizers. May I draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that he cannot take shelter on the plea of shortage of fertilisers alone? If he examines, he may find other reasons also. After all, fertilizers are a thing of yesterday. Formerly people were doing without this better and much better. Instead of taking shelter on the plea, it would be well for the Government to examine what the defects are and try to rectify them.